



Security Council

Distr.
GENERALS/1995/230
28 March 1995

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 25 MARCH 1995 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

By its resolution 976 (1995) of 8 February 1995, the Security Council decided that the deployment of infantry units to the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM III) would take place on the basis of my informing the Council that the conditions contained in paragraph 32 of my report of 1 February (S/1995/97 and Add.1) had been met. In my further report to the Council of 5 March (S/1995/177), I indicated that in view of inescapable logistic constraints, this could be achieved only if I was in a position to notify the Council by 25 March 1995 that the parties had substantially complied with the above-mentioned conditions, which include the effective cessation of hostilities, provision of all relevant military data, and designation of all quartering areas. In a statement issued on 10 March (S/PRST/1995/11), the Council took note of my intention in this regard.

On 16 March 1995, I briefed the Security Council on my decision to send my Special Adviser, Under-Secretary-General Mr. Ismat Kittani, to visit Angola and to deliver letters to President José Eduardo dos Santos and Mr. Jonas Savimbi, President of the União Nacional para a Independência Total de Angola (UNITA). Mr. Kittani was also instructed to discuss with the Angolan parties the measures which they should urgently take to bring the military situation under control and to facilitate preparations for the deployment of UNAVEM III.

Mr. Kittani visited Angola from 17 to 22 March. He met with Mr. Savimbi in Bailundo on 19 March and with President dos Santos in Luanda the next day. In the course of his visit, he also met with the Prime Minister of Angola, the President of the National Assembly, the heads of the Government and UNITA delegations to the Joint Commission, the General Secretary of the MPLA, the Ambassadors of the three observer States (the United States, Portugal and the Russian Federation), members of the diplomatic corps, and the head of the Catholic Church in Angola.

In his discussions with the Government and UNITA, in which my Special Representative, Mr. Alioune Blondin Beye, participated, Mr. Kittani conveyed to them my concern regarding the status of the cease-fire and the parties' failure to cooperate fully with UNAVEM III. It was stressed that members of the Council



need to have convincing evidence that both the Government and UNITA have renounced the military option and are genuinely committed to the peace process.

Both President dos Santos and Mr. Savimbi assured my Special Adviser that they are fully committed to the implementation of the Lusaka Protocol and are strongly in favour of the accelerated deployment of all United Nations troops. They undertook to create the political, military and logistic conditions conducive to such deployment. The need to expedite the dispatch of United Nations-formed units was also stressed by various other interlocutors, including the representatives of the three observer States.

Mr. Kittani has also reported to me that, while the conditions stipulated in Security Council resolution 976 (1995) have not been fully met, some progress has recently been made in the effective cessation of hostilities, the disengagement of troops, the establishment of verification mechanisms, the modalities for integration of military forces, and other essential tasks. Moreover, it is clear that it is becoming increasingly necessary to assist the parties in overcoming their mutual mistrust and to create additional impetus to the peace process.

In light of the above, and with a view to avoiding dangerous delays in the implementation of the Lusaka Protocol which might destabilize conditions on the ground, I have decided that it would be in the best interest of the peace process to proceed with preparations for the deployment of United Nations infantry units to Angola. I fully realize that there are certain risks involved in the above decision. As a result of the brief suspension of preparations for the deployment of United Nations troops to allow a reassessment of the situation, it is already slightly behind the original schedule. However, I must stress that, unless the Angolan parties comply without delay with their commitments under the Lusaka Protocol and provide the indispensable logistic support to UNAVEM, it would not be possible to ensure that the deployment of United Nations infantry to Angola would begin in May. I intend to submit to the Council by 8 April a further report on UNAVEM III, with additional observations regarding the cooperation of the parties.

As the Security Council has emphasized, time is short, and the opportunities created by the Lusaka Protocol and Security Council resolution 976 (1995) should not be lost. The efforts of the United Nations must be matched by an unambiguous political will and concrete action by the Angolan parties. In the meantime, the United Nations will continue with all necessary logistical preparation for UNAVEM III, including the deployment of support units, as well as all other necessary preparations for the dispatch of the infantry battalions.

I would be grateful if you would bring these matters to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) Boutros BOUTROS-GHALI
